

**Post-Hearing Questions for the Record
Submitted to Peter C. Grevatt, Ph.D.
Office of Ground Water and Drinking Water
Office of Water
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Senate Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs
Subcommittee on Federal Spending Oversight and Emergency Management
“The Federal Role in the Toxic PFAS Chemical Crisis” – September 26, 2018**

The Honorable Gary C. Peters

1. What steps is EPA taking to establish the methods for measuring PFAS in soil and groundwater?
What is the expected timeframe for these methods to be established and agreed upon nationally?

Deliberative Process / Ex. 5

2. As recently as five years ago, EPA had to rely upon industry provided records to understand what PFAS chemicals were manufactured or utilized. The Agency’s Significant New Use Rule authority provided by the recent TSCA reauthorization was intended to help the agency better understand what chemicals are being produced or used here in the United States. Can you elaborate on EPA’s use of the “Significant New Use Rule” authority to potentially understand new uses of PFAS chemicals before they are commercialized? Specifically, will the Significant New Use Rule help EPA better understand the implications of PFAS chemicals as a class, or does EPA interpret the authority provided by Congress to be more narrowly tailored to assess the two specific chemicals, PFOA and PFOS?

Deliberative Process / Ex. 5

The Honorable Margaret Wood Hassan

1. How many Americans are known or expected to have been exposed to PFAS in their drinking water?
Is this estimate your provide for people on public water supplies or does it include people on private drinking water wells?

Deliberative Process / Ex. 5

2. How many Americans have been exposed to levels of PFOA and PFOS that exceed the EPA drinking water guideline?

Deliberative Process / Ex. 5

3. When did the EPA begin developing its drinking water guideline for PFOA and PFOS?

Deliberative Process / Ex. 5

4. When were the guidelines publicly available?

Deliberative Process / Ex. 5

5. When were the data documenting the presence of PFAS under the Safe Drinking Water Act's Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule analyzed? When were they made publicly available?

Deliberative Process / Ex. 5

6. How many years have passed since the EPA has known that PFAS – including PFOA and PFOS are present in public drinking water supplies?

Deliberative Process / Ex. 5

7. What is the difference between a guideline and a standard?

Deliberative Process / Ex. 5

8. If an EPA standard is developed, are all states required to meet the standard?

Deliberative Process / Ex. 5

9. If an EPA standard is developed, are DoD facilities required to meet the very same standard(s)? Why or why not?

Deliberative Process / Ex. 5

10. The Centers for Disease Control Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry released its Toxicity Profile for PFAS this summer. The ATSDR guidelines for PFOA and PFOS are almost 10 times less than the EPA drinking water guidelines. Why is this?

Deliberative Process / Ex. 5

11. In your opinion, do the EPA guidelines meaningfully reduce risk to human health?

Deliberative Process / Ex. 5

12. Based on the scientific evidence, do you think that the EPA guidelines set for PFOA and PFOS are health protective? Are they specifically protecting infants who are bottle fed with water from their contaminated home source or those who are breast fed where moms are drinking contaminated water?

Deliberative Process / Ex. 5

13. Do you think that the EPA drinking water guidelines should be developed for the suite of chemicals measured in the UCMR and not just for PFOA and PFOS?

Deliberative Process / Ex. 5

14. The last drinking water standard EPA developed was way back in the 1990s and in fact was only a lowering of the arsenic standard. Does EPA have the person power and technical abilities to develop PFAS federal drinking water standards?

Deliberative Process / Ex. 5

15. If so, how long would it take to develop and promulgate a standard?

Deliberative Process / Ex. 5

Deliberative Process / Ex. 5

16. How many people's health will be harmed in the time it takes to develop a national standard?

Deliberative Process / Ex. 5

17. When we know that very small amounts of PFAS can negatively affect health, why is EPA treating results below the UCMR minimum reporting levels (MRLs) [20 ppt PFOA; 40 ppt PFOS] as "zero"? Are they zero or are they levels that we need to be concerned about?

Deliberative Process / Ex. 5

18. The PFASs have been in commerce for tens of years. Can the Lautenberg Amendment to the Toxics Substances Control Act be used to require pre-market testing of all of the PFASs? What is preventing this from happening?

Deliberative Process / Ex. 5

Deliberative Process / Ex. 5

Deliberative Process / Ex. 5

19. Filtration is the currently feasible technology to remove PFAS from water. The filters that contain the PFAS are then disposed of. Where are they disposed of? Are these toxic? Does this mean that PFAS should be listed as Superfund chemicals and disposed of in hazardous waste facilities?

Deliberative Process / Ex. 5

20. PFASs are measured in waste water and in sewage sludge. Does this mean that PFASs are now in our rivers, streams and lakes? Are our fish contaminated? If yes, why is EPA not regulating discharge to waterways?

Deliberative Process / Ex. 5

21. What is EPA's plan to further engage with the community in NH and get direct input from Granite Staters about PFAS contamination in their waters?

Deliberative Process / Ex. 5